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Week two brings hundreds together for Ellicott City recovery

ELLICOTT CITY, MD –Howard County Executive Allan H. Kittleman announced today that more than 650 people accessed Ellicott City's Main Street this weekend as property owners, merchants and residents continued their clean up from the July 30 flash flood.

"It was uplifting to see so many people come together to help their friends continue this recovery effort," said Kittleman. "They braved the extreme heat and heeded the advice about hydrating and taking frequent breaks. Once again, I saw their resilience and determination and together they got a great deal accomplished."

The County is once again temporarily suspending access to Main Street so that public works crews can continue with important work. Repair of retaining walls, storm drains, pipes and other critical infrastructure will move forward.

"While things are improving at ground level, there's still a lot of work that needs to be done below ground," said Kittleman. "We know people want even more time in their buildings, and we appreciate their patience. We will be meeting early this week to come up with a plan for additional access."

Kittleman noted that since the recovery process began, public works crews have already hauled away more than 60 tons of dumpster debris from the businesses and residents.

In other recovery news ...

The County Council emergency session to hear Kittleman's proposed legislation to waive various permitting fees will occur Monday, Aug. 15 at noon in the Banneker Room of the George Howard Building at 3430 Court House Drive.

The first EC Strong Recovery Fund Committee Meeting will be held on Wednesday Aug. 17 from 2-4 p.m. in the C. Vernon Gray Room, also at the George Howard Building. The purpose is to establish a framework for the committee and begin to coordinate processes and procedures to distribute donated relief funds.

The SBA Disaster Loan Outreach Center, located at the Ellicott City 50+ Center at 9401 Frederick Road in Ellicott City, will be open the week of Aug. 15. Weekday hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Loan options are available to businesses and residents to help with rebuilding and recovering the loss of inventory and personal property. Review the SBA fact sheet for information.

Also located at the Ellicott City 50+ Center, the Disaster Assistance Center will continue its operations for the week of Aug. 15 during its established hours, Monday to Wednesday from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. and Thursday to Sunday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Volunteer Reception Center will be closed during the week of Aug. 15. As volunteers are needed, the county will be contacting those already registered.

For more information or assistance, call 410-313-2900 or visit www.ECfloodrecovery.org

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